

NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
PROPRIETOR.

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VOLUME XL.....NO. 171

AMUSEMENTS TO-MORROW.

BROOKLYN PARK THEATRE.
Around the world in eighty days, at 5 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

ROBINSON HALL.
Street.—English Opera.—GROFLE GIOFLE, at 5 P. M.

WOODS MUSEUM.
Broadway, corner of Third Street.—THE BLACK DOCTOR, at 5 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Matinee at 2 P. M.

GILMORE'S SUMMER GARDEN.
Late Barnum's Hippodrome.—GRAND POPULAR CONCERT, at 5 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M. Ladies and children's matinee at 2 P. M.

CONWAY'S BROOKLYN THEATRE.
ARTISTE M. at 5 P. M. Miss Clara Morris, Mr. James Whelan.

PARK THEATRE.
Broadway.—EMERSON'S CALIFORNIA MINSTRELS, at 5 P. M.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.
No. 24 Broadway.—VARIETY, at 5 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE.
Twenty-third street and Broadway.—THE BIG BO-SANZA, at 5 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

CENTRAL PARK GARDEN.
THEODORE THOMAS' CONCERT, at 5 P. M.

METROPOLITAN THEATRE.
No. 25 Broadway.—VARIETY, at 5 P. M.

QUADRUPLE SHEET.

NEW YORK, SUNDAY, JUNE 20, 1875.

THE HERALD FOR THE SUMMER RESORTS.

To NEWSDEALERS AND THE PUBLIC:—The New York Herald will run a special train every Sunday during the season, commencing July 4, between New York, Niagara Falls, Saratoga, Lake George, Sharon and Richfield Springs, leaving New York at half-past two o'clock A. M., arriving at Saratoga at nine o'clock A. M., and Niagara Falls at a quarter to two P. M., for the purpose of supplying the SUNDAY HERALD along the line. Newsdealers and others are notified to send in their orders to the Herald office as early as possible.

From our reports this morning the probabilities are that the weather to-day will be warmer, and clear or partly cloudy.

Persons going out of town for the summer can have the daily and Sunday Herald mailed to them, free of postage, for \$1 per month.

WALL STREET YESTERDAY.—Stocks were without feature, and opinions were sharply divided with reference to the future. Gold was strong at 117½. Money rates unchanged.

THE BIG RACE of the Brooklyn Columbia Club brought out the ladies in large numbers. This association, though young, shows a good deal of vigor. Contests like that of yesterday do much to popularize the healthful sport of boating, and we are glad to notice that the ladies were present in goodly force.

THE POPE'S HEALTH.—The state of the Pope's health again creates anxiety. His Holiness has been attacked by lumbago, and though he continues to give audiences as usual, friends and enemies are anxious about the result. Just now the death of Pope Pius would introduce an element into European politics that might endanger the peace of Europe. Bismarck takes a deep interest in the question of Papal succession, and might find his opportunity to make a grand row on the occasion of the election of a new Pope.

MORE MEETINGS OF EMPERORS.—On his return from Warsaw the autocrat of Russia will pass through Bohemia and Francis Joseph will greet his fellow sovereign on the frontier. In the absence of the saintly William the Russian and Austrian rulers can talk over the European question at their ease. How Bismarck would like to know the exact text of their conversation! It is probable his name will come up in the course of conversation between the two emperors.

POLICE COMMISSIONER VOORHIS has insisted upon an investigation by the Superintendent of the allegations set forth in the statement of the ex-detective Martinot before the legislative committee. Commissioner Disbaker failed in an attempt to make the investigation "general." The other Commissioners know very well that a "general" investigation means no investigation at all, or what is equivalent—an investigation of the character of the famous report of the Harlem flats police surgeons, made to order.

THE BULL AND THE BULL'S EYE.—Our first news of the shooting in Ireland came in a shape characteristically Hibernian. It is conceded that the Americans are the superior marksmen, but the Irish have won the match. The Irishmen make the best score, but the Americans are the best shots. When an affectionate mother, by way of instruction, told her boy that if he cut the cake he must give Johnny the larger of the two pieces, because "that was polite," the apt pupil in the hollow ways of the world immediately proposed that the duty of dividing the cake should at once be turned over to Johnny, that he might himself have the benefit of the politeness of the case. We confess to a similar aspiration in regard to the division of the case between us and Ireland. By all means let the Irishmen themselves be the best shots, but let our fellows win the match.

Rapid Transit.

Rapid transit is at last rather more than a name. For some tedious years it has dangled before the eyes of popular fancy as a tantalizing vision, and now it seems inclined to stand on the earth as a tangible reality. It has rung in our ears the musical promise that at some future date the people might live far enough up town to get cheap rents and yet be within easy reach of Wall street. Now there is likelihood that the promise may come to performance.

At all events if we do not now make a real progress in this matter of so much consequence to the city we can definitely locate the responsibility for the mishap. Governor Tilden has approved the Husted bill, and the Mayor under that measure and in accordance with its provisions will be called upon to appoint Commissioners to take further steps. It will be the duty of this Commission, acting as a body with public authority, to determine the character of the road to be built and its route, and, indeed, the whole plan; and with this committee once appointed the destiny of rapid transit falls into their hands. They will constitute, therefore, a very important body—a body of more consequence to the people of this city than twenty boards of aldermen or several legislatures. Indeed, they will step into the same position in regard to this important subject that has been occupied for many years by the Legislature; and there will hustle about them the same scramble of projectors and jobbers, inventors and contractors that have so long sufficed in the Albany lobby to defeat every good scheme for the amelioration of city travel. Every ingenious man with a scheme; every impudent rogue determined to make a million dollars out of some other man's scheme; in short, the whole army of wretches whose cupidity and shamelessness make our legislation a reproach will pull and haul and bully and endeavor to bribe a committee that can determine a point on which will turn a great many fortunes.

It will be possible for this Board of Commissioners to add many millions in value to real estate in certain parts of the city, and to put in the near prospective a tenancy that will justify the erection within five years of one hundred thousand new houses on lots now vacant in the upper wards. They can open Golconda to the happy inventor whose scheme they approve and the not less happy capitalists who are interested in that scheme, and they can send out to disappointment and ruin others who have invested money and years of thought in schemes perhaps scarcely less ingenious, perhaps superior to the one they shall favor. It is but natural, therefore, that this body should become the centre of a great struggle; and, inasmuch as it is practically the Legislature and has legislative authority over the subject submitted to its discretion no one must be surprised to see it approached in that same winning method that has successfully appealed to the Legislature itself on so many occasions.

It is apparently the intention of the law, taken plainly, that this Board shall determine upon plans submitted to it which one is most likely to be practically effective and to answer the great demand made for easy and rapid transportation between the extremities of the city, up and down, and also for side routes to the ferries or other important points. Already there are, we believe, nearly thirty plans proposed. Twenty-six have been described in these columns; and if the Board examines these intelligently and reports upon them honestly, without favor, without collusion, without jobbery, there can be no doubt that we shall secure the great improvement so long demanded. But if this committee shall be in any sense a failure, if it is appointed from a view of any other interest than the interest of the people in rapid transit, it will be only one more reason; and it will either defeat all projects or it will give us a road so inadequate to the needs and so extravagant in construction that the element of cheapness—quite as important as rapidity—will pass out of sight, and we shall be further than ever from rapid transit through the discouragement of capital and the indifference of the people.

All the future of rapid transit, therefore, is now in the Mayor's office, and, indeed, under the Mayor's bat. He is responsible, and his reputation will stand or fall by the result. We have just as much confidence in Mr. Wickham as we have in any one else. He is appointed to a place of trust in a metropolis where honest men are rarely found in office, and he has a share of human fallibility; but he has an opportunity before him that rarely falls to the lot of a municipal functionary. He may in the appointment of this Commission render the city a service the equal of which no Mayor ever had the chance to render before him, and he may by a little error run rapid transit into the groove it has hitherto occupied in Albany. Nobody can say what a commission will do after it is appointed; sometimes not even the man who appoints it. But the Mayor has before him a course that will guarantee him against consequences that he cannot control. He will err if he appoints men for whom the public will continue to hold him responsible. He will perform his duty properly if he appoints men of the kind that are accepted by the people as responsible for themselves; men whose ready acceptance by common opinion discharges the responsibility of the appointing power; men in whom, if the Mayor is disappointed, he can at least claim that he was disappointed in common with the whole public.

Apparently the danger is that the whole subject may be decided, not upon fair and impartial examination of several schemes, but upon some foregone conclusions and in the very nomination of the Commission. This Commission is not unlike a nominating convention, and will be dealt with by the jobbers in the same style. Before the convention is named there are half a dozen candidates in the field who want the office. These candidates besiege the power that names the convention, and each uses what pressure he can to secure that the body shall be composed of his friends—his men, in fact; so that when the convention is named the nomination of the candidate is practically made. In the same way pressure is, of course, already active to secure from the Mayor the appointment of men in favor of one or another of the plans that are in the field. Rings with-

out number are formed or will be formed and prospective divisions of the illimitable spoil are already made to secure the political or other pressure that is necessary or thought to be necessary to control the Mayor's action.

Although the city may not disburse a penny yet the franchise is of such prospective value that the temptation is very great and will excite the same sort of ingenuity as served to make the Pacific Railway the cover for so much villany; and if we would avoid all trouble of that sort, if we would secure the effective construction of a good road, the only plan and only hope is to obtain now, at the Mayor's hands, the appointment of an honest and upright body, not committed beforehand to any particular system, above all not appointed especially to approve some man's plan, but appointed simply because they are upright citizens of a kind that may be relied upon to determine as a jury of the people. The appointment of such a committee is the function the law has put in the Mayor's hands, and he will not be true to his office nor to himself if he endeavors to perform instead the function that the law intends to give to the Commissioners; if, that is to say, he endeavors to determine by the very formation of the committee which of the many projects shall be decided upon. It is too much to be apprehended that jobbery will make itself felt in this matter for any hesitancy to be used by those who write in the interest of the public welfare.

Pulpit Topics To-Day.

This must be a season of special danger to young people, judging from the number of sermons and addresses that are delivered every Sunday to them. Mr. Clark, of Bristol, England, will speak to them to-day; Mr. Hawthorn will set up Moses as a model for young men, and will show young women where and how they may find the true ideal of womanhood, and Mr. Harris will hunt around his parish for the young man wanted for the times. We hope he may find more than one such. And akin to these talks to young people are family subjects, such as will be treated to-day by Mr. Kennard, who will show what home life should really be; and by Mr. Sweetser, who will dilate more especially on one feature of the Christian home life—family worship. But what would home be without happiness—that gem by many sought but found by few? Mr. King has the secret and he is going to tell it freely to all who will hear and heed. The leadership of the Spirit, about which Mr. McCampbell will speak, is more likely to secure happiness than anything we know of. How to obtain this guidance of the Spirit or how to be saved by Jesus, the martyr King, will be made plain by Dr. Deems and by Mr. Lloyd, who will show that the lifting up of Christ brings God's salvation near, and the acceptance of that salvation gives to man eternal life—makes him immortal and unites the whole family in heaven and earth in one, as Mr. Lightbourn will demonstrate. But this life and experience is the honor and fruit of humility, which inspires the soul with true Christian zeal, so that a man can walk calmly in the Lord's way, as Mr. Hepworth will make clear, even in the midst of strife and tumult. This is the season for building, and Mr. Willis will contrast the wise and foolish builders for the benefit of those who have characters to erect and position to attain, either in this life or the next. Father McQuirk will have something to say about the Pope's infallibility, and Dr. Porteous will indicate the cause of the lack of self-reliance among the religious classes, as well as point out the function and value of public opinion. And with this series of topics, wise and good and true, our readers will probably be satisfied for another week.

THE BLACK HILLS.—The exploring expedition to the Black Hills under the command of Colonel Dodge has already reached the border of the "Indian Eden." It is to be feared that the Indians may attack the column and so precipitate a new Indian war. No time should be lost by the newly appointed Commissioners in explaining the views of the government to the Sioux before the dissatisfaction of their chiefs at their unwise treatment at Washington has time to be communicated to the tribes and renders accommodation difficult. The Indians evidently dislike the entrance of white men into the Black Hills region and will probably resent the intrusion. Fortunately the column under Colonel Dodge is sufficiently strong to resist any hostile attack likely to be made on it by the savages. A fight in the hills is to be feared, as it might be the signal for a general attack on the line of unprotected frontier settlements.

THE ST. PETERSBURG CONFERENCE.—Russia has not yet abandoned her idea of establishing an international war code, and, notwithstanding the snubbing she received from England, a new circular will be addressed to the Powers. This last exhibition of interest in the international war code question will probably make the British only more suspicious of Russian designs. It may be that the Northern Power is sincerely desirous of lessening the horrors and wishes to humanize the rules of war; but if so, why not go a step further and try to abolish standing armies? Rules that make war a luxury only to be indulged in by the rich might be fatal to the liberty of smaller Powers who, under the present system, even if overpowered, can always resort to that *guerre à outrance* which plays such sad havoc with professional soldiers.

THE EARTHQUAKE IN THE WEST.—There was every reason to expect that the inflation bubble, which has been troubling the West for a long time, would burst in the end, but we scarcely expected it to take the shape of an earthquake. This, however, seems to have been the shape which the agitation has assumed, and all the way from Chicago to Cincinnati the earth has been rocking with a great commotion. When republicans and democrats in the Ohio and Mississippi valleys learn the true principles of political economy they will be freed from the evils of an earthquake, but as long as they cling to inflation they may expect the consequences which always result from overblown bubbles.

THE FIRST MINIATURE YACHT REGATTA in Central Park yesterday attracted a brilliant and numerous assembly. The boys were out in force, and enjoyed their sport quite as much as the owners of larger craft could have done.

An Opportunity for the Unappreciated.

The accepted fact that the Mayor is really going to London is full of compensations. Governor Tilden has cheerfully expressed his willingness to perform the only duty that now devolves upon the Mayor's office, that of reviewing Irish processions in the City Hall Park. He has purchased a beautiful suit of orange, trimmed with blue, in which he will review the Protestants on the anniversary of the Battle of the Boyne. He has a fine rich emerald suit out in the latest style, embroidered with shamrock, in which he will review the Sons of St. Patrick on the festival day of that saint. As these are the only two undisputed functions now left to Mayor Wickham, and as Governor Tilden is an expert horseman and instead of standing on the stone steps holding a pole in his hands would canter up and down upon the space to the admiration of the admiring thousands from Greenwich street and Five Points, the change will be even for the better. Therefore the Mayor can go to London with an easy mind. We can give him such a retinue as has never been seen in the historical streets of the old city. The Mayor, with magnanimity and foresight, has indicated the character of the men who will compose his retinue. New York, he says, is filled with unappreciated intellect. There is no city in the world perhaps where there are so many men of genius and worth and experience willing to sacrifice themselves for their country—even to make a sacrifice as great as that which General Grant recently deplored—as in New York. New York is like a forest after a storm. The ground is strewn with the trunks of many a majestic career. Appreciation, like gratitude, is no longer a virtue of the Republic. We can scarcely walk up Broadway of a morning without seeing the remnant of some mighty influence, a little bit battered, the hat carefully adjusted, somewhat seedy, expectant, under the influence of cosmetics and chemical preparations. Mayor Wickham has pondered over this circumstance and has resolved to make his visit to England the means of reviving the dormant genius that has been trodden under foot by the rushing, hurrying crowd and the rude, thoughtless mass who are in power to-day, and who may be digging on the public works to-morrow.

Mr. Wickham will, therefore, be escorted to London by a retinue of unappreciated statesmen. It would not surprise us if Tweed would be the head of this staff, as circumstances have rendered it possible for Tweed to attend our municipal chief. Tweed informed a contemporary reporter that he has spent a half million of dollars on his lawyers, and that most of his fortune has been wasted by blackmailers and adventurers. Consequently what would have been a gratification to the ex-Boss—namely, the payment of the expenses of this party—will be impossible. But, as we before remarked, the benefit at all the theatres, with the subscriptions from the Custom House and city departments, and those voluntary contributions from the people, who would be glad of an opportunity to express their joy at the departure of the Mayor and his retinue, might net a competent fund that would enable Mayor Wickham to enjoy all the pleasures of his London trip and not dishonor America. There are the four bosses, neither of whom is appreciated properly—Boss Kelly, of the Swallow-tailed democracy, against whom the tribes are rising in mutiny; Boss John Morrissey, of the Short Hair, who is now sitting on the ragged edge in Tammany Hall; Boss Tom Murphy, of the Beef Eaters, whose mind is more or less concerned by the revelations of corruption and fraud, and Boss Tom Cramer, of the Plug Uglies, who is said to have earned vast sums of money in Wall street speculations.

The truth is that none of these bosses have an easy time of it in New York. We are rushing along in our madcap way so rapidly that the appreciation of a foreign audience would be comfort and peace. Then there is Disbaker, the compounder of the garbage balm of a thousand flowers, and Green, the watchdog of the Treasury, now suffering from hydrophobia. We do not know any two statesmen who lack appreciation more than Disbaker and Green and whose departure from London would be looked upon with more rejoicing. Then comes a long line of "greatness under a cloud," which, like the vision of Macbeth, might be said to extend to the crack of doom. These are precious opportunities, and we thank the Mayor for his resolution not only to go to Europe, but to give the Old World an opportunity to honor our unappreciated statesmen.

Jerome Park Races.

The American Jockey Club closed their spring meeting at Jerome Park yesterday in the most brilliant manner. The weather was delightful, the attendance enormous and the racing very exciting. The winners were Mattie A. (two races), Countess, Daylight and Stamford, the two steeplechasers being of more than ordinary interest. There is something to admire in the management of this association, in the entire absence during their meeting of everything that might offend the most fastidious visitor. Thousands of people may be seen there on a race day, all in holiday spirit, yet neither drunkenness, rowdiness nor quarrelsomeness finds place within the precincts of the course. This gratifying result may be attributed to the excellent arrangements made by the officers of the club to prevent such unpleasant features, and the flavor of respectability that pervades each meeting, which is seldom found at other courses. The weather has been unusually kind this season to the American Jockey Club, bright skies and balmy breezes ushering in each day of the meeting. Nine years have elapsed since this beautiful race park was first thrown open to the public, and it becomes more attractive each year. The metropolis may well take a pride in the association of gentlemen who have made racing honorable and respectable to a degree beyond all expectation. Success must necessarily crown their efforts at each meeting.

THE REGATTA of the Brooklyn Yacht Club yesterday was quite an enjoyable affair. A stiff breeze gave a chance for an animated race, and allowed the yachtsmen to display their seamanship, and they eagerly embraced the opportunity. It is seldom

that a better race is witnessed than that of yesterday's. One hour and forty minutes was the time taken in the run to the Lightship. This will give some idea of the animated nature of the sport.

Prayers for Lady Franklin.

All over the land to-day the churches will be moved by the pious appeal for the prayers of the faithful which comes to the Christian people of America from that most widely and devoted of women, Lady Franklin. Lying at the point of death she does not forget how every pulse had moved in response to her appeals in the past in behalf of her noble husband, nor fail to ask the prayers of those sympathetic hearts in the dark and trying hour which comes but once to all of us. No spectacle could be grander than the invocations which will go up this morning from a thousand altars to the throne of the Most High beseeching the Heavenly Father to smooth the dying pillow of this constant and devoted lady. For more than thirty years she held herself true to the memory of the man to whom she had pledged her girlish faith, and until certain tidings of his fate had been at last obtained she not only hoped against hope for his return, but labored toward that end with a zeal and earnestness and intelligence which have never been surpassed. All history does not afford another such example. In her own person she combined the graces and virtues of all the heroines of mythology and romance. Even Homer could not have created a goddess so sincere and so perfect in all that pertains to true womanhood. Inspired by the example of the wife who would not even permit him to linger a day from his duty, though she knew she was dying and would never see him again in this world, the second Lady Franklin more than emulated the devotion of the first. She was constant to her lord not only till his death—not merely to his memory till the last—but labored constantly to clear up the mystery of his fate. So great was her faith, so unceasing her endeavors, so high and noble her undertaking, that she enlisted in her work the sympathies of the whole world. For nearly fifteen years she was unable to obtain even a clew to the fate of the distinguished captain whose name she bore. Two American expeditions, aided by her purse and full of the grand purpose which inspired her own breast, had sailed in vain to find some tidings of the lost explorer. At last another American expedition—Captain McIntosh's—the fruit of her own pious and pathetic appeals, brought her news which, though it disappointed her hopes and confirmed her fears, set at rest the doubt which filled her soul with agony. She knew, at least, that Sir John Franklin was dead, and secured for all her pains and all that long and agonizing suspense a brief record of his fate, as that record was. During all those years of suffering and sorrow Lady Franklin was strengthened by the prayers and sympathies of the people, to whom she now appeals in the hour of her extremity, and the voices of supplication which will go up for her to-day will be in a great measure praises of thankfulness for the example she has set not only by her many Christian virtues but for the increased sanctity with which she clothed true womanly devotion. In an age when the marriage vow is but lightly held, even in some of the churches which bear the Christian name, that example is priceless in its worth. If she had no other claim to our respect the devotion with which she clung to the memory of the bold and daring explorer, with whose fame her own is linked, and the unexampled courage she displayed in following every clew to his fate would commend her as worthy of every honor and entitled to the highest regard which men can bestow upon womanhood.

Another Harlem Flat Police Surgeon's Recantation.

Dr. Waterman, Police Surgeon of the Thirtieth district, one of the signers of the famous report testifying to the fragrance and healthfulness of the Harlem flats, has added his name to the list of those who have repudiated that remarkable document. He gave his signature because the suggestions and recommendations with which the report closed seemed to him "fair and logical." But when the facts alleged therein were called in question he made an investigation for himself, and soon discovered that he had unwittingly signed away his professional reputation. He hastens to correct the blunder, and will probably be more careful in future how he attaches his name to a statement of whose truthfulness he is ignorant and which he does not thoroughly understand.

Dr. Waterman did in the end what he ought to have done in the beginning—he examined Professor Disbaker's dumping ground. The conclusions at which he arrives bring his opinions in conflict with those of the garbage-loving head of the Street Cleaning Bureau. To Disbaker's nostrils the reeking flats diffuse sweet odor. In Disbaker's pharmacopoeia the noxious gases arising from putrefying animals and vegetable matter are the most healthful medicine that can be prepared for the human system. But Dr. Waterman recognizes in the "heavy mephitic cloud" that seems "to rest over the entire locality" of the Harlem flats "a sickening, nauseating odor," and he believes that the fetid air carries with it pestilence and death. The picture he paints, after a personal inspection of the infected district, will not prove consoling to those who reside in the neighborhood. He looked in vain for a definite source of the sickening mephitic cloud that assailed him as he entered the territory and increased in intensity as he proceeded; for the material that had been deposited was everywhere doing its deadly work, and was everywhere insufficiently covered, "allowing the effluvia from below to expand and spread far and wide over the district." Nevertheless some special beauties—precious spots that would have delighted Disbaker and his doctors—did come under his observation. A "black, seething sheet of water under a house at One Hundred and Sixth street and Second avenue yielded a more than ordinary supply of large rising gas bubbles." The "mephitic, muddy surface of the sluggish Harlem River gave evidence of the exhalations of marsh gas, the carburetted hydrogen offensive at all times." At One Hundred and Seventh street, between Second and Third avenues, a "reeking, black, muddy bottom" formed a spot of ground so offensive to look upon that the Doctor "wondered how this cesspool was tolerated among the dwellings of civilized men." To Disbaker this

particular spot would be the most attractive of the district.

Dr. Waterman scouts the idea of only five per cent of the filling of the flats being of organic admixture, and also the pretence that the covering of earth is sufficient to prevent an excess of absorbing power to the generating power of the soil. In other words, he believes that, through the joint operations of the contractors and the Street Cleaning Bureau, a plague spot has been created in the heart of the city and the treasury has been defrauded by gross violations of public contracts. This is the plain interpretation of his conclusions, and it is one which the people will concede to be correct. His suggestions are well enough in their way. They might have had more force if the Doctor had been a little bolder and more outspoken in his condemnation of the stupidity of his associates. But he has put himself right on the record, and every police surgeon who has any professional reputation to lose should follow his example.

The Aldermen in Contempt.

The republican Aldermen, in absenting themselves from the Board, and thus endeavoring to block the machinery of the city government, are acting under injudicious advice and will regret their lawless conduct. They are so clearly in the wrong that their revolutionary course cannot find the slightest excuse, and certainly is entirely unjustifiable. A committee raised by a vote of the Board, in which they participated, to consult with the heads of departments in regard to the proposed reduction of the pay of city laborers, reported the result of their consultation, accompanied by a resolution recommending that the old rate of pay—two dollars a day—be continued. The republican members refused to vote on the acceptance of this report or the adoption of the resolution, although the majority of the Board declined to excuse them. For this they have been declared in contempt by a resolution of the Board. Thereupon they absent themselves from the meetings of the Board, and are advised by their partisans to leave the Common Council without a sufficient number of votes to transact business or perfect legislation necessary to the carrying on of the city government.

The charter of 1873, in article 2, section 6, provides that the Board of Aldermen shall (3) "determine the rules of its own proceedings" and (7) "have the authority to compel the attendance of absent members, to punish its members for disorderly behavior and to expel any members with the concurrence of two-thirds of the members elected to the Board." In accordance with the first of these powers the Board has adopted "rules," the twenty-fourth of which provides that "every member who shall be present when a question is put shall vote for or against the same, unless the Board shall excuse him, or unless he be immediately interested in the question, in which case he shall not vote; but no member shall be permitted to vote upon a question when division is called unless present when his name is called in regular order." (Rules as amended by the Board of Aldermen, adopted March 18, 1875.) This is in accordance with all parliamentary usage, since all business might be blocked in a legislative body if it had not the power to compel its members to vote. A contumacious refusal to vote is one of the gravest offences a member can commit, and strikes at the existence as well as the dignity of the body to which he belongs.

The conduct of the republican Aldermen, in first committing a breach of the rules and next threatening to stop the business of the government, is worthy of the worst days of Tammany rowdism. It is the more reprehensible since their refusal to vote was notoriously induced by a desire to shirk the responsibility of declaring themselves either for or against the reduction of the city laborers' pay, and since six out of the eight insubordinate Aldermen do not represent a majority of their constituents, were not elected by the people, but were legislated into office. They cannot too soon make the proper admission of their offence and purge themselves of the contempt.

PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

Cyrus W. Field sailed from Liverpool for New York yesterday.

Secretary Westknop returned to Washington yesterday from West Point.

Mr. Reuben E. Fenton, of Jamestown, N. Y., is staying at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

Baron Thielmann, of Germany, has taken up his residence at the Hotel Brunswick.

Professor Hayden, the geologist, is among the late arrivals at the Everett House.

Chief Engineer J. Q. A. Ziegler, United States Navy, is quartered at the St. Nicholas Hotel.

Peter B. Sweney is said to be coming home to fight. He always was an eminent patron of the Ring.

Mr. Galusha A. Grow, of Pennsylvania, has returned to his old quarters at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

Major George A. Gordon and Captain James M. J. Sano, United States Army, are registered at the Sturtevant House.

Secretary Robeson will leave Washington on Monday morning for Annapolis, to distribute the diplomas to the graduating class of midshipmen.

General William T. Sherman, accompanied by Colonel J. C. Anderson, of the General's staff, arrived at the Fifth Avenue Hotel last evening from Boston.

The Canadian Wimbledon team, in charge of Lieutenant Colonel McKay, of Halifax, waited yesterday for England on board the steamship Nova Scotia.

Minister Schenck wrote a pamphlet on poker; but now it is S. L. M. Barlow who has been asked to write for the "American Cyclopaedia" the article on whist.

Mr. Deane, manager of the London Times, and father-in-law of Fremont, the historian, is about to retire from journalism. His impersonality is to be personified with a barometer.

Señor Don Francisco Gonzalez Errazuriz, Chilean Minister at Washington, returned to this city last evening from Mexico, where he had been attending the Lincoln Hill celebration, and is at the Clarendon Hotel.

Mr. Beach says that King David Beeverton and wrote ragged edged letters, but forgets to add impressively that the lady didn't have her hand footed as one in prayer. In fact, she was doing her cable's telegram.

A cable telegram from Paris under date of yesterday, 19th inst., reports that Mr. Firmat, an American Sybilist, who professed to photograph deceased persons, has been convicted of swindling and sentenced to six months' imprisonment.

A party of about fifty persons, members of the Alabama Press Association, who have been on a pleasure tour in the West and as far North as Niagara Falls and Montreal, arrived at the Grand Central Hotel last evening from Albany. They will be received by Governor Tilden at his residence in this city to-morrow morning and will depart for their homes in the evening.